dominant white stock. Restrictions were placed on Chinese immigration, and the total number of Chinese in the two dominions is small—not far from twenty-five thousand. Groups of Chinese, none of them—except in Hawaii—numerically very considerable, are to be found in several others of the Pacific islands.

Early in the twentieth century an experiment with Chinese contract labor was made in the gold mines of South Africa, but it was not long continued and the laborers were sent home. Only a few hundred Chinese are now to be found in that dominion.

We have already seen (Chapter XI) that Chinese first began coming in large numbers to the United States in the eighteen fifties in connection with the gold rush to California. They supplied much of the unskilled labor and later many were employed in building and maintaining railroads. We have seen that agitation against them began early, the basic reasons being that, with their low standard of living, the Chinese competed successfully with white laborers, and that they were not easily assimilated. We have seen, too, that, except for the temporary residence of such groups as merchants and students, immigration was prohibited, earlier for periods of years and later (1902 and 1904) indefinitely. In 1943 this exclusion was repealed. The largest number of Chinese reported in the continental portion of the United States was by the census of 1890, when the total had mounted to 107,448. From then on it dwindled. Except for the large number of students, most of the Chinese in the United States are engaged in such specialized occupations as domestic service, market gardening, labor in canneries, laundrying, and restaurant-keeping.

At the time of their annexation to the United States the Hawaiian Islands contained about twenty-five thousand Chinese residents, and that in spite of measures which had been taken in the eighteen eighties and nineties to reduce the number of new arrivals. After annexation, the exclusion acts of the United States were applied, and Chinese laborers who were not American citizens were forbidden to go to the mainland. Chinese still constitute one of the largest racial elements of the extremely mixed population of the islands.

In Canada the story is similar. Chinese began coming in numbers in the eighteen sixties to engage in mining and to do